

We claim:

1. (Currently amended) A method for diagnostic testing biological specimens comprising the steps of:

obtaining a first specimen;

obtaining a second specimen;

positioning the first specimen in a first well of a carrier;

positioning the second specimen in a second well of a carrier, the second well being separable from the first well at a separator member, ; and

2. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1 further comprising subjecting the first specimen to a diagnostic test.

3. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1 further comprising subjecting the second specimen to a diagnostic test.

4. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1 further comprising preserving the second specimen for use in a subsequent diagnostic test.

5. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1 further comprising ~~providing a carrier having a first well, a second well, and~~ a specimen-handling tool disposed within at least a portion of the carrier and removing said specimen handling tool from said carrier.

6. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1 further comprising separating the first well from the second well at the separator member, providing a carrier having a separator disposed between the first well and the second well, the separator adapted to permit the separation of the first well and the second well.

7. (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising providing a composition adapted to

detect the presence of *Helicobacter pylori* in the first well.

8. (Original) The method of claim 7 further comprising providing a composition adapted to detect the presence of *Helicobacter pylori* in the second well.

9. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1 further comprising providing a composition adapted to detect the presence of *Helicobacter pylori* in the first second well.

10. (Currently amended) A method for diagnostic testing biological specimens comprising the steps of:

providing a carrier having a first well, a second well separable from the first well at a separator member, and a specimen-handling tool disposed within at least a portion of the carrier; obtaining a first specimen; obtaining a second specimen; positioning the first specimen in the first well of the carrier with the specimen-handling tool;

positioning the second specimen in the second well of the carrier with the specimen-handling tool; and

separating the first well of the carrier from the second well of the carrier at the separator member.

11. (Original) The method of claim 10 further comprising subjecting the first specimen to a test to determine the presence of *Helicobacter pylori*.

12. (Original) The method of claim 10 further comprising subjecting the second specimen to a test to determine the presence of *Helicobacter pylori*.

13. (Original) The method of claim 10 further comprising preserving the second specimen for use in a subsequent test.

14. (Currently amended) A method for conducting diagnostic testing biological specimens comprising the steps of:

obtaining a first biopsy specimen and a second biopsy specimen;

disposing the first biopsy specimen in a first well of a carrier;

disposing the second biopsy specimen in a second well of a carrier; and separating the first well of the carrier from the second well of the carrier at a separator member.

15. (Original) The method of claim 14 further comprising subjecting the first specimen to a test to determine the presence of *Helicobacter pylon*.

16. (Original) The method of claim 14 further comprising subjecting the second specimen to a test to determine the presence of *Helicobacter pylon*.

17. (Original) The method of claim 14 further comprising preserving the second specimen for use in a subsequent test.